

**BUSINESS-TO-BUSINESS SERVICE PROVIDER SYSTEM
FOR INTRANET AND INTERNET APPLICATIONS**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A system and method are described for establishing a secure virtual trading zone
for customers of a service provider, in which bandwidth and applications are provided
dynamically and in which the communication path is controlled. The service provider
performs the following steps: receiving a request from a customer to establish
communication with another customer; confirming the identity of each customer;
transmitting to each customer executable code enabling encrypted communication
therewith; obtaining from each customer information regarding the customer's computing
environment; preparing a set of applications for use by each customer, in accordance with
the customer information and the customer's request; transmitting the set of applications
as executable code to each customer; establishing a communication path to each
10 customer; and specifying the communication path to the customers, thereby permitting
the
customers to communicate over the path using those applications.